IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for transmitting still pictures extracted from a picture stream, comprising:

a transmission request receiving unit configured to receive a transmission request for ~~the~~ a plurality of still pictures including scene-changing still pictures and non-scene-changing still pictures;

a transmission sequence determining unit configured to determine a transmission sequence for the plurality of still pictures which is different than the sequence of the still pictures in the picture stream;

a transmission unit configured to transmit the still pictures in one series according to the transmission sequence determined by the determining unit; and

a still picture control unit coupled to and configured to control the receiving unit, the determining unit, and the transmission units;

wherein the determining unit determines the transmission sequence such <u>(a)</u> that each of the scene-changing still pictures of the transmission sequence are transmitted prior to the non-scene-changing still pictures <u>and (b) that one of the non-scene changing still pictures positioned in a middle of a largest interval between scene-changing still pictures included in the picture stream is first transmitted after the scene-changing still pictures are transmitted</u>.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a memory unit coupled to the control unit and the transmission unit, and configured to store the still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the determining unit.

Claim 5 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising;

a picture stream input unit coupled to the still picture control unit and configured to input the picture stream; and

a thumbnail picture extracting unit coupled to the still picture control unit and the still picture input unit, and configured to extract the plurality of the still pictures from the picture stream input to the still picture input unit.

Claim 6 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

a picture stream control unit coupled to the picture stream input unit and the still picture control unit, and configured to transmit the transmission request received by the receiving unit to an external apparatus, and configured to control the picture stream input unit so as to input the picture stream.

Claim 7 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a first memory unit coupled to the still picture control unit and the input unit and configured to store the input plurality of still pictures; and

a second memory unit coupled to control unit and configured to store the plurality of still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the determining unit.

Claim 8 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit creates a table including an offset value of a leading position of each still picture and its corresponding frame number in the picture stream, and

wherein the transmission unit transmits the table prior to transmitting the sequenced still pictures.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for transmitting a still pictures extracted from a picture stream, comprising:

transmission request receiving means for receiving a transmission request for ~~the~~ a plurality of still pictures including scene-changing still pictures and non-scene-changing still

pictures;

transmission sequence determining means for determining a transmission sequence

for the plurality of still pictures which is different than the sequence of the still pictures in the

picture stream;

transmission means for transmitting the still pictures in one series according to the

transmission sequence determined by the determining means; and

still picture control means coupled to the receiving means, the determining means,

and the transmission means, and for controlling an operation of the apparatus

wherein the determining means determines the transmission sequence such (a) that

each of the scene-changing still pictures of the transmission sequence are transmitted prior to

the non-scene-changing still pictures and (b) that one of the non-scene changing still pictures

positioned in a middle of a largest interval between scene-changing still pictures included in

the picture stream is first transmitted after the scene-changing still pictures are transmitted.

Claim 10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

memory means coupled to the control means and the transmission means, and for

storing the still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the

determining means.

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising;

still picture input means coupled to the still picture control means, and for inputting

the picture stream; and

thumbnail picture extracting means coupled to the still picture control means and the

still picture input means, and for extracting the plurality of the still pictures from the picture

stream input to the still picture input means.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

picture stream control means coupled to the still picture input means and the still picture control means, and for transmitting the transmission request received by the receiving means to an external apparatus, and for controlling the still picture input means so as to input the picture stream.

Claim 15 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

first memory means coupled to the still picture control means and the input means, and for storing the input plurality of still pictures; and

second memory means coupled to control means, and for storing the plurality of still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the determining means.

Claim 16 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the control means creates a table including an offset value of a leading position of each still picture and its corresponding frame number in the picture stream, and

wherein the transmission means transmits the table prior to transmitting the sequenced still pictures.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method for transmitting still pictures extracted from a picture stream, comprising:

receiving a transmission request for the plurality of still pictures including scene-changing still pictures and non-scene-changing still pictures;

determining a transmission sequence for a plurality of still pictures which is different than the sequence of the still pictures in the picture stream; and

transmitting the still pictures in one series according to the transmission sequence determined in the determining step,

wherein the determining step determines the transmission sequence such (a) that each of the scene-changing still pictures of the transmission sequence are transmitted prior to the

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non-scene-changing still pictures <u>and (b) that one of the non-scene changing still pictures</u>

<u>positioned in a middle of a largest interval between scene-changing still pictures included in</u>

<u>the picture stream is first transmitted after the scene-changing still pictures are transmitted</u>.

Claim 18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Original): The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

storing the still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the

determining means.

Claim 21 (Original): The method according to claim 17, further comprising; inputting

the picture stream; and

extracting the plurality of the still pictures from the picture stream input to the still

picture input means.

Claim 22 (Original): The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

transmitting the transmission request received in the receiving step to an external

apparatus; and

inputting the picture stream.

Claim 23 (Original): The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

storing the input plurality of still pictures in a first memory unit; and

storing the plurality of still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence

determined by the determining step in a second memory unit.

Claim 24 (Original): The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

creating a table including an offset value of a leading position of each still picture and

its corresponding frame number in the picture stream, and

wherein the transmission step transmits the table prior to transmitting the sequenced

still pictures.

Claim *25* (Currently Amended): A computer program product for transmitting still pictures extracted from a picture stream, comprising:

a first computer code configured to receive a transmission request for the-a plurality of still pictures including scene-changing still pictures and non-scene-changing still pictures;

a second computer code configured to determine a transmission sequence for the plurality of still pictures which is different than the sequence of the still pictures in the picture stream; and

a third computer code configured to transmit the still pictures in one series according to the transmission sequence determined by the second computer code,

wherein the second computer code determines the transmission sequence such (a) that each of the scene-changing still pictures of the transmission sequence are transmitted prior to the non-scene-changing still pictures and (b) that one of the non-scene changing still pictures positioned in a middle of a largest interval between scene-changing still pictures included in the picture stream is first transmitted after the scene-changing still pictures are transmitted.

Claim 26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (Canceled)

Claim 28 (Original): The computer program product according to claim *25*, further comprising:

a fourth computer code configured to store the still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the second computer code.

Claim 29 (Original): The computer program product according to claim 25, further comprising;

a fourth computer code configured to input the picture stream; and

a fifth computer code configured to extract the plurality of the still pictures from the picture stream input to the fourth computer code.

Claim 30 (Original): The computer program product according to claim 29, further comprising:

a sixth computer code configured to transmit the transmission request received in the receiving step to an external apparatus; and

a seventh computer code configured to input the picture stream.

Claim 31 (Original): The computer program product according to claim 25, further comprising:

a fourth computer code configured to store the input plurality of still pictures in a first memory unit; and

a fifth computer code configured to store the plurality of still pictures as a transmission stream in the sequence determined by the determining step in a second memory unit.

Claim 32 (Original): The computer program product according to claim 25, further comprising:

a fourth computer code configured to create a table including an offset value of a leading position of each still picture and its corresponding frame number in the picture stream, and

wherein the third computer code transmits the table prior to transmitting the sequenced still pictures.

Claims 33-44 (Cancelled).